

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 237160

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS SUMMARY, SEPTEMBER 23

1. SUN (PAGE A-3) AP REPORTS FROM MOSCOW THAT SMOKERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SMOKE IN ANY MOSCOW RESTAURANT, IF THEY WANT TO EAT. ALSO NYT.

2. SUN (PAGE A-4) MATTHEW SEIDEN REPORTS FROM TOKYO THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND SOVIET UNION HAVE GROWN COLDER IN LAST FEW WEEKS THAN AT ANY OTHER TIME IN RECENT YEARS IN GROWING SERIES OF DISPUTES, MOST RECENT BEING IN SEPTEMBER WHEN RUSSIAN AIR FORCE LIEUTENANT (BELENKO) LANDED TOP-SECRET MIG-25 IN JAPAN AND ASKED FOR ASYLUM IN UNITED STATES.

3. SUN (PAGE B-3) AP STORY FROM MOSCOW DESCRIBES NUMBER OF SOVIET STUDENTS INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AS BEING MORE AND MORE INTERESTED IN STUDY OF HUMANITIES RATHER THAN SCIENCES.

4. WP (PAGE 29) IN A NEWS ANALYSIS, THOMAS LIPPMAN AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PETER OSNOS CONCLUDE THAT MOSCOW, WITH ITS FLEET PLYING

THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE GULF OF OMAN, AND WITH ARRAY
OF SOVIET WEAPONRY INSTALLED IN SEVERAL ARAB COUNTRIES,
REMAINS POTENTIALLY POWERFUL STRATEGIC FORCE IN REGION,
BUT APPEARS TO HAVE LOST ITS ABILITY TO INFLUENCE
POLITICAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICIES OF ARAB STATES.

5. WSJ (PAGE 1) "WHAT'S NEWS" ITEM SAYS THAT RUSSIA
ACCUSED JAPAN OF DELIBERATELY STRAINING RELATIONS BY
REFUSING TO RETURN IMMEDIATELY MIG-25 FIGHTER PLANE
FLOWN INTO NORTHERN JAPAN BY DEFECTING PILOT ON
SEPTEMBER 6.

6. STAR (PAGE 4) "THE WORLD" SECTION REPORTS FROM MOSCOW
SOYUZ COSMONAUTS RETURN TO EARTH. KISSINGER

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